

Application No. 10/055747
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Amendment
Attorney Docket No. S63.2-10062-US01

Amendments to the Specification:

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 24 (paragraph [0036] of the published application US 20030152728 A1) as follows:

The process of incorporating the chain extender compound(s) can be carried out in a simple manner using the usual extruder melt-mixing techniques and equipment, for example by dry blending the terminally reactive polymer and the chain extender in a solid state. In some cases a small quantity (preferably no more than about 0.2%) of an oily processing aid may be added to the dry mix to improve the uniformity of distribution of the chain extender in the dry mix. The dry mix so obtained, is then melted in a conventional melt-mixing apparatus, for example a single- or double-screw extruder. Alternatively the polymer composition may be prepared in another type of melt mixer and then subsequently provided to the extruder either directly from the initial melt mixer or in the form of pre-compounded pellets of the melt mixture. The different components can also be fed to the extruder or other mixing apparatus separately. Chain extenders, in any form, can be fed into an extruder separately from the polymer resin by continuous feeding equipment available, for instance, from Doier Waagetchnik-Engelhardt GMBH, Germany which can dose feed powder from 100 gram to 5 kg in one hour. The melted blend is suitably brought to a temperature and kept for a time sufficient to react the desired proportion of the relevant terminally reactive groups of the polymer, hence being controllable.